

"Stay a little and news will find you."

Mother's News

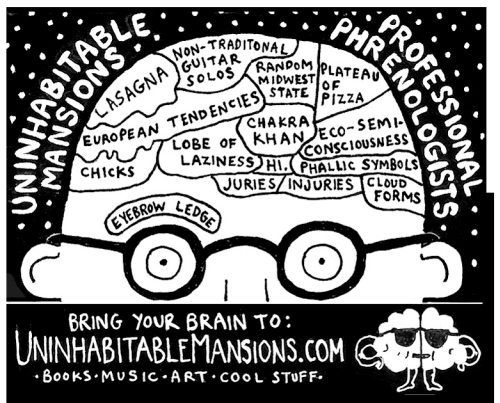
THE PAPER OF RECORD

previously the Bayou Tribune

write to:
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color guide: cloak: dark blue; hood, cane, & inner sleeves: red; face, right hand, & underside of cloak; flesh, middle of cloak; green; hair, beard, & left hand: light blue / silver; ground: yellow



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SUMMER

We're in it now! It's Summer in the northern hemisphere. In the southern hemisphere right now they're basically in an our February weather pattern, can you dig that? I almost can't-- February is such a far away zone... Maybe it'll get so hot out this month you'll have a February fantasy, a daydream where you're wearing a big itchy sweater in a drafty hotel. Sometimes Summer can get so sunny, hot, and real you have to manufacture a little February just to stay grounded-- gotta hang out in a basement playing video games for a couple hours with the shades down. Gotta do what you gotta do. My favorite movie to watch this time of year is Disney's 20,000 Leagues Under The Sea-- it takes place at sea, Kurt Russell plays ukulele and gets drunk with a seal, and it reminds me of the Summer I hated the world, grew out a black beard, and wore a blazer (Horrible Summer).

Summer unofficially begins on Memorial Day (the last weekend in May) but officially began on June 21st, the Summer solstice, except in Ireland, where it officially begins on May 1st, and Japan, where it traditionally begins on July 7th. it seems like fortunes are regularly made on discrepancies like this-- that's the nature of global capitalism. But thus far there hasn't been a lot of arbitrage around this point. The price point on black market lemonade sold by children stays roughly the same all year round, and there's no popsicle / hot dog supertanker that ships from Ireland to Japan every May. Or if there is it's extremely covert, possibly a submarine. Anyway it's Summer, and on July 7th we're all in agreement about it (in the northern hemisphere).

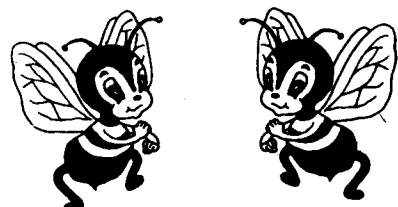
HOLIDAYS IN JULY

July 7th in Japan is the day of Tanbata, a yearly star festival in which the stars-that-are-also-lovers Weaving Princess (Vega) and Cow-Herding Star (Altair) cross the Milky Way and spend one night together before returning to their personality-defining tasks. On this day children make ink from dew and write wishes on small pieces of paper, traditionally, wishes for better handwriting. But their handwriting has to be a little bit ok to even be able to be read by a wish-granting entity. That's a pretty real lesson for a kid-- them that gets gets. A nice drink for this festival is Calpis, a mildly fermented milk drink you get in concentrated form (at some Asian markets) and mix with soda water. If you get confused and drink just the concentrate, trust me, it will be very unpleasant. But the drink itself is pleasant! If you like things that taste like skim milk and 7up. Calpis is inspired by a fermented Mongolian horse milk drink and yes, you can put vodka in it (recommended). It's perfect for Tanbata because it's summery, romantic, milk-like, star-like (bubbles), eternal-feeling (horse milk aspect), and night (vodka)(recommended). It's exactly the summer version of eggnog. In case this paragraph isn't clear, Calpis does not (repeat: does not) contain horse milk. buuuuuuu if (dietary restrictions against dairy notwithstanding) you're totally unwilling to drink fermented horse milk in the night sky with legendary star-lovers, please crumble up this newspaper and throw it on the ground.

OTHER HOLIDAYS IN JULY

Fourth of July is on the Fourth of July, and marks the highpoint of personal firework use in the United States. What are your favorite fireworks? Discarding expensive municipal fireworks like Chrysanthemums, Multi-Multis, Saturns, and How-Are-You's, I'd have to go with "Small Bees" (which is also my least favorite kind of bee). If you are going to set off big fireworks in your neighborhood in the time leading up to and away from the fourth of July, please be considerate and make sure some of them make whistling or crackling noises, to differentiate them from gunshots. But also make sure some of them pop (or "report", to use fireworks terminology), in order to differentiate them from horrible shrieking demons. It's common courtesy! Noted chaos aesthete Hakim Bey noted that gunpowder was invented by the Chinese for the purpose of fireworks, not munitions- not for war but strictly to frighten malign spirits and delight children. If your neighbors complain about your judicious use of fireworks, be suspicious! They maybe be attempting to attract malign spirits, or anti-delight children. But also they may have PTSD, so try have an open mind heart eye about it and work with them to figure out the best way for your neighborhood to frighten away malign spirits / delight children. Maybe a spooky parade or a smokey cookout? You only need to satisfy two conditions from this list: loud, vaporous, colorful, appearance of danger, strong smell, people that don't know each other agree (that it's good), dogs are confused; and all of the following: awe, it delights children, not being sure how it works, doesn't cost money (to witness / be part of).

The best way to be a good neighbor and use fireworks is to send them up when everyone else is sending them up, clustering their sound and maximizing their odour. This is the same reason everyone in the suburbs mows their lawn at the same time. Also when there's a ton of fireworks in the air at once, come on, that rules. Don't be stingy, go in.



LIST OF BEES

and non-bee entities, but
not things named after
bees or bee-like entities

- bumble bees
- honey bees
- carpenter bees
- sea bees
- small bees
- wasps
- hornets
- yellow jackets

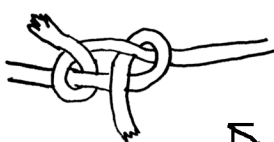
SCENE REPORT: ICE CREAM IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD

The best place to get "some ice cream" (aka a shareable amount) is 7-11. The best flavor at 7-11 (taking into account the price) is "homemade" chocolate. I get this kind even though I hate that it's called "homemade". I guarantee that if anyone is caught living and working at the ice cream factory, they will get fired, and probably the whole operation will be shut down-- I thought the laws about food labelling were pretty strict but I guess not. Maybe glaring errors like "homemade" are useful, in they point how corrupt the whole mechanism is. It might as well say "fresh squeezed", "100% juice", and/or "all natural".

Hey this sounds crazy, but if you want 7-11 chocolate ice cream to taste more expensive (aka "premium"), stir in a drop or two of soy sauce. Seriously! It would even fool a snob. (This method invented by Sakiko Mori).

The best place to get "an ice cream" is the market on Broadway, I forget what it's called but the sign in the window makes it look like it's permanently on fire (cool look). The only thing with a price on it is the "Classic Banjo", but the price is insane- thirty five cents! I've never heard of this ice cream bar before this summer, but it is a "classic" style- vanilla ice cream, chocolate shell, wooden stick. Other things in the freezer might seem appealing, but listen-- don't. I tried to get a popsicle there, it was two dollars and change! Seriously what is the deal with this thirty-five cent price point??????????

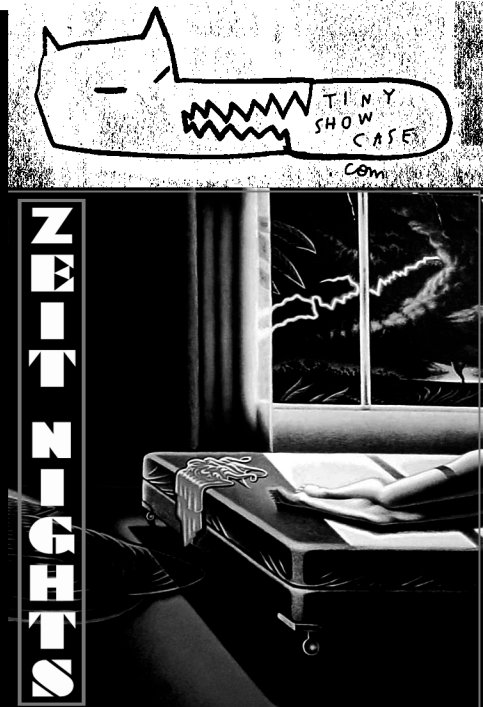
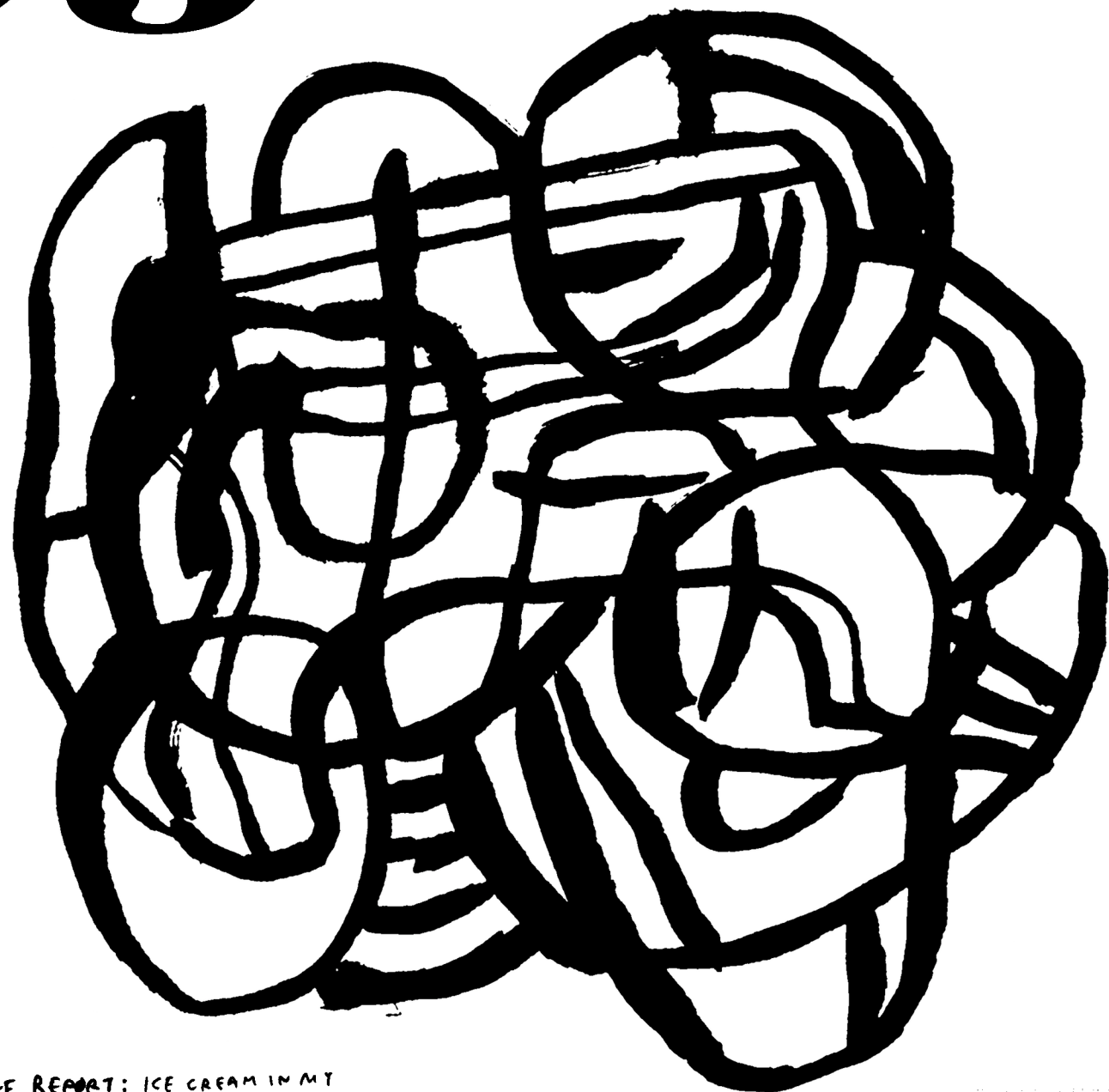
REVIEW: STRING



When we get the newspaper (this newspaper) back from the printer it comes in bundles, wrapped in this great white string. We take all the string and tie it end to end and roll it in a ball that's now the size of a cantaloupe, this is very satisfying somehow. We had to experiment a little with the best way to tie two pieces of string together quickly and efficiently (with a preference for quickly), but this is our method.

I used to have this cool t-shirt that had a bunch of useful knots drawn on it, with the names of the knots written upside down (for maximum usefulness to the wearer). One time I was wearing it and a very beautiful person asked me if i knew how to tie a lover's knot-- I told them that the best i could do was a sheet bend and 2 half-hitches. It was the kind of perfection you just have to walk away from.

One time (not wearing the shirt) these guys at the bar were low-level making fun of me for appearing intelligent, and they were asking me about quantum mechanics and stuff, very "stump the chump". "What's under that and what's that made of and what's under THAT?". I told them that the best theory going (this was years ago) was that everything was made up of tiny tiny tiny string. They got pretty excited, we were all on the same page. We shook hands. I left.



EVERY SATURDAY IN JULY
AT MACHINES WITH MAGNETS

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